

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please cancel the present abstract and substitute the new abstract attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-11 and add new claims 12-20 as follows:

12. A record carrier provided with at least two substantially parallel information layers, a first of said layers comprising user information in a first format and a second of said layers comprising substantially the same user information in a second format, the first format providing a relatively lower data density of the user information than is provided by the second format.

~~13. The record carrier of claim 12, wherein the second layer includes the user information contained in the first layer.~~

14~~3~~. The record carrier of claim 12~~3~~, wherein the ~~first~~ second layer includes ~~different~~ additional user information that is not contained in the second first layer.

15~~4~~. A record carrier for scanning by an optical head, comprising:
multiple at least partially co-extending and substantially

parallel information layers;

each layer includes a user area formatted for user information and a control area formatted for layer control information relevant only for scanning the user information of the respective layer and contained only in the respective layer; the control area of one of the layers containing global control information relevant for scanning the information of other information layers, the second control information is not contained in all the other layers.

165. The record carrier of claim 154, in which the global control information includes information indicating the number of layers.

176. The record carrier of claim 154, in which the global control information contained in one layer includes information about the contents of the user information in another layer.

~~18. The record carrier of claim 15 in which the global control information includes a table of contents for determining in which layer particular user information is stored and the layer control information includes a table of contents for determining the address of the particular user information in the layer within which the particular information is stored.~~

197. The record carrier of claim 15 in which the global control information includes information for controlling a lens to remain in focus during scanning of a track of another information layer

which is to be read, such control being effected by a servo-system based on the global control information.

~~20~~18. The record carrier of claim 15 further comprising means for minimizing the access time to read all the first information from the respective layers including:

each layer contains one area of control information formatted for containing all the layer control information;

the one area of control information formatted for layer control information of each layer co-extends with the area for layer control information contained in all the other layers;

the global control information is only contained in the one layer and includes control information for scanning the user information of all the layers; and

tracks of information in one of the layers is sequentially ordered in one direction and the tracks of information in each layer adjacent to the one layer is sequentially ordered in the opposite direction.

19. The record carrier of claim 12 wherein the device of the first format includes 16 bit audio encoding and the second format includes 24 bit audio encoding.

20. The record carrier of claim 12 wherein information is scanned in one layer in a phase structure and information is scanned in